CCRB INVESTIGATIVE RECOMMENDATION

Investigator:		Team:	CCRB Case #:	▼ Force	☐ Discourt.	☐ U.S.
Mercedes Bayon		Squad #13	201405681	✓ Abuse	O.L.	☑ Injury
Incident Date(s)		Location of Incident:	•	Precinct:	18 Mo. SOL	EO SOL
Tuesday, 06/03/2014 9:30 AM		§ 87(2)(b)		40	12/3/2015	12/3/2015
Date/Time CV Reported		CV Reported At:	How CV Reported	l: Date/Tim	ne Received at CC	RB
Tue, 06/03/2014 12:30 PM		IAB	Phone	Mon, 06/	09/2014 6:36 PM	1
Complainant/Victim	Type	Home Add	ress			
Witness(es)		Home Add	ress			
Subject Officer(s)	Shield	TaxID	Command			
1. SGT Jordan Castro	03544	942768	PSA 7			
2. POM Jimmy Perez	08269	941242	PSA 7			
3. POM Daniel Staple	14749	943844	PSA 7			
4. POM Zain Woods	30046	951450	PSA 7			
Witness Officer(s)	Shield N	o Tax No	Cmd Name			
1. LT Ivan Gonzalez	00000	901620	PSA 7			
Officer(s)	Allegatio	on		Inv	estigator Reco	nmendation
A.POM Daniel Staple	Force: Po	Daniel Staple used p	physical force against	§ 87(2) (b)		
B.POM Daniel Staple	Force: PO	Daniel Staple used a	chokehold against	37(2)		
C.POM Zain Woods	Force: Po	O Zain Woods used ph	ysical force against	87(2)		
D.SGT Jordan Castro	Force: Sg	gt. Jordan Castro used	physical force agains	t § 87(2)		
E.POM Daniel Staple	Force: PO	D Daniel Staple used p	ohysical force against	§ 87(2) (b)		
F.POM Jimmy Perez	Force: Po	O Jimmy Perez used p	hysical force against	§ 87(2) b)		
G.POM Zain Woods	Force: PO	O Zain Woods struck	87(2)(b) with an	asp.		

Officer(s)	Allegation	Investigator Recommendation
H.POM Jimmy Perez	Abuse: PO Jimmy Perez threatened with the use of force.	

Case Summary

On June 3, 2014, at approximately 9:30am, \$87(2)(b) (encl. 8a-8e) and \$87(2)(b) (encl.
9a-9g) were walking back to their apartment complex located at \$87(2)(b) in the
Bronx. They had just dropped off two of their children at school. \$87(2)(b) and \$87(2)(b)
reside inside of apartment 9C. Inside of apartment 9C were their other children, §87(2)(b)
and § 87(2)(b) and § 87(2)(b) were alerted to
the fact that there was a fire inside of their building. \$87(2)(b) and \$87(2)(b) had an
ongoing problem with their neighbors in apartment 10C. One of the occupants from apartment
10C, \$87(2)(b) was observed by \$87(2)(b) placing a mattress outside of their
apartment, 9C, and lighting it on fire. In response to the fire, NYPD and FDNY responded to the
location and numerous residents exited the building.
Tocation and numerous residents extend the building.
According to \$87(2)(b) and \$87(2)(b) they informed Sgt. Jordan Castro that \$87(2)(b)
observed \$87(2)(b) start the fire outside their apartment door. Following this, Sgt. Castro
directed PO Daniel Staple and PO Jimmy Perez upstairs to get \$87(2)(b) and \$87(2)(b) PO
Perez returned outside with \$87(2)(b) in handcuffs and remained with him standing outside of
near the curb. PO Staple exited the building with \$87(2)(b) and
conducted a show-up to see if \$87(2)(b) would identify \$87(2)(b) as the arsonist; however,
the show-up was negative as she stated she could not be sure if it was \$87(2)(5) At that point it
was determined that \$87(2)(b) would be released. PO Perez walked \$87(2)(b) back into the
building at which time \$87(2)(b) was exiting the building. \$87(2)(b) identified \$87(2)(b)
by pointing him out to PO Perez stating that he recently filed a complaint regarding a robbery and
identified \$87(2)(b) as the person who robbed him. At this time PO Perez told \$87(2)(b) to
stop. § 87(2)(6) stated that he stopped and PO Perez took out a set of keys to release § 3.
stated that he stopped and PO Perez took out a set of keys to release \$ \$7(2)(b) from the handcuffs. \$87(2)(b) stated that he asked PO Perez why he was releasing \$ \$100.00000000000000000000000000000000
\$87(2)(b) and PO Perez told him not to worry and then told him "stop right there." \$87(2)(b)
replied that he was not going to stop and went to walk away. \$87(2)(5) allegedly bumped his
shoulders into \$87(2)(b) and \$87(2)(b) then pushed him back. \$87(2)(b) ran out of the
building at which time \$87(2)(b) told \$87(2)(b) to stop and he immediately stopped
running. At this time, PO Staple allegedly used his legs and tripped \$87(2)(b) to the ground and
then sat on \$87(2)(b) s back like a "UFC" fighter. \$87(2)(b) alleged that PO Staple had his
legs around \$87(2)(6) s waist squeezing him (Allegation A). He further alleged that PO Staple
placed his hands around his neck in a chokehold position pulling \$87(2)(b) s upper body
backwards by his neck, which restricted \$87(2)(b) s breathing (Allegation B). \$87(2)(b)
removed PO Staple's hands from him and PO Staple then stood up. \$87(2)(b) remained on the
ground on his knees and was told numerous times by Sgt. Castro, PO Perez, and PO Zain Woods
to place his hands behind his back, but \$87(2)(b) told them that he was not going to do so.
According to \$87(2)(b) she approached \$87(2)(b) and was then pushed backwards by PO
Woods (Allegation C).
In response to \$87(2)(5) s refusal to place his hands behind his back, Sgt. Castro allegedly
punched \$87(2)(b) three to four times on the right side of his ribcage (Allegation D). At this
same time, PO Staple allegedly kicked \$87(2)(b) twice in the face (Allegation E) while PO
Perez allegedly kicked him on the left side of his head (Allegation F). stated that he
then went to stand up and was going to defend himself at which time PO Woods allegedly struck
him on the right top side of his head with an asp once, which resulted in \$87(2)(b) becoming
unconscious and begin bleeding from his head (Allegation G). §87(2)(b) stated that he
sustained a laceration as a result of being struck with the asp and received three stitches.

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recalled waking back up at which time he was still lying on the ground and he was in handcuffs. He stated that EMS was present by this time. \$87(2)(b) tried to move and PO Perez allegedly stated, "If you move I will break you right here" (Allegation H). \$87(2)(b) admittedly made derogatory statements to PO Perez after which PO Perez allegedly approached and stepped on his hands, which were in handcuffs and caused him pain (Allegation E).
s arrest report stated that he was charged with \$87(2)(b) (encl. 20a-21c).
s pre-hospital care report (see medical records folder) records indicated that had a laceration to the right hairline and right parietal area and that the mechanism of injury was "fight/brawl and blunt trauma." On \$87(2)(b) sought follow-up care at \$87(2)(b) and his records indicate that he had head trauma (headaches) and shoulder pain.
This case was placed on the agency's sensitive case list because it received media attention as there were several newspaper articles published regarding this incident (encl. 1a-1d).
Mediation, Civil, and Criminal Conviction Histories (encl. 28a-d) This case was not mediation eligible. A Notice of Claim Inquiry was submitted to the Office of the Comptroller on April 15, 2015 and will be included in the casefile upon receipt. A search of Office of Court Administration records stated that there is "no defendant found on file" regarding sarrests for this incident, arrest number \$87(2)(b) and \$87(2)(b) \$87(2)(b)
A search of the Booking Arraignment and Disposition System revealed that on \$87(2)(b) pled guilty to \$87(2)(b) .
Civilian and Officer CCRB Histories This is \$87(2)(b) and \$87(2)(b) s first CCRB complaint (encl. 3e-f).
PO Perez has been a member of service for eight years, and has two previous CCRB cases involving four allegations, none of which were substantiated. [887(2)(9)] (encl. 3b).
PO Staple has been a member of service for eight years, and has six previous CCRB cases involving eleven allegations, none of which were substantiated. [857(2)(9)] (encl. 3c).
Sot. Castro has been a member of service for eight years, and has three previous CCRB cases

Sgt. Castro has been a member of service for eight years, and has three previous CCRB cases involving six allegations. Two allegations in CCRB case number 200709473 were substantiated against him. The allegations included a retaliatory summons in which the CCRB recommended charges and the NYPD's disposition was command discipline B and a stop allegation in which the CCRB recommended charges and the NYPD's disposition was instructions (encl. 3a).

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PO Woods has been a member for service for three years and has no previous CCRB complaints against him (encl. 3d). **Potential Issues** According to § 87(2)(b) and his pre-hospital care report (see medical records folder), he was taken to § 87(2)(b) for medical treatment. The undersigned investigator mailed a subpoena for the records from § 87(2)(b) and upon follow-up was informed that they did not have a subpoena on file. The undersigned investigator mailed a second subpoena and upon follow-up was informed that the subpoena was not in the system. The undersigned investigator sent a subpoena to NYCHA Law Department to obtain video footage from the surveillance cameras at §87(2)(b) however, the law department informed the CCRB that the video footage was deleted and no longer available. On June 26, 2014, the undersigned investigator conducted field work in the vicinity of and located various stores across the street from the incident location. However, none of these locations had surveillance cameras outside of the store covering the incident location. provided four short videos one of which was 18 seconds, 17 seconds, 19 seconds, and 19 seconds consecutively. However, none of the videos show any part of the incident involving §87(2)(b) or any of the allegations (encl. 7c-7f). Field Work On June 26, 2014, the undersigned investigator conducted field work in the vicinity of The undersigned investigator visited several businesses located across the . None of the owners or employees at the locations observed street from § 87(2)(b) the incident and did not have any surveillance cameras that covered the area where the incident occurred (encl. 7a). Additionally, the undersigned investigator visited several apartments inside of \$87(2)(b) to speak with tenants who may have witnessed the incident. Several tenants stated that they did not recall the incident; however, one tenant from §87(2)(b) observed the incident from her apartment window and provided a statement to the undersigned investigator on the same date (encl. 7a). **Contact Attempts to Additional Civilians** and § 87(2)(b) identified § 87(2)(b) and § 87(2)(b) their daughters who were home inside of their apartment during the incident. They stated that at some point they came downstairs and witnessed the force used against §87(2)(6) On June 24, and § 87(2)(b) 2014, the undersigned investigator called § 87(2)(b) answered the telephone and scheduled an schedule them for an interview. § 87(2)(b) interview for herself, § 87(2)(b) and § 87(2)(b) for June 24, 2014 in the field. However, on

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twice, but there was no answer and no voicemail system on each occasion. On August 12, 2014

missed their scheduled interviews without calling to cancel or reschedule and missed appointment letters were mailed. Between July 21, 2014 and July 28, 2014, the undersigned investigator

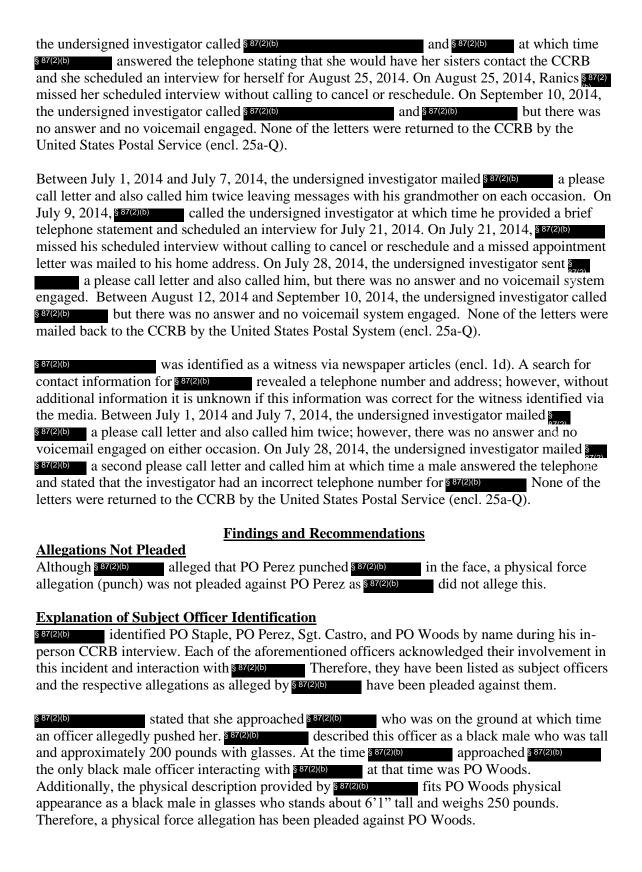
contacted the investigator and stated that they could all appear at

and § 87(2)(b) please call letters and also called them

and § 87(2)(b)

the same date, § 87(2)(b)

the CCRB on July 18, 2014. On July 18, 2014, § 87(2)(b)



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Recommendations

Allegation A: Force: PO Daniel Staple used physical force against §87(2)(6) It is undisputed that PO Staple used some amount of force to restrain §87(2)(b) ultimately effect his arrest. According to \$87(2)(b) (encl. 9a-g), as he was exiting \$, he observed PO Perez entering the building with \$87(2)(b) and seemingly removing the handcuffs from §87(2)(b) At this time, §87(2)(b) began pointing at §87(2)(b) and exclaiming, "That's him!" PO Perez told \$87(2)(6) to stop, but \$87(2)(6) turned to walk then allegedly pushed \$87(2)(b) with his shoulders and \$87(2)(b) pushed him back. \$87(2)(b) then ran out of the building towards \$87(2)(b) speaking with PO Staple outside. §87(2)(b) told §87(2)(b) to stop running and he complied. PO Perez then exclaimed, "Get him!" PO Staple then allegedly ran towards and used his legs to trip § 37(2)(b) causing him to fall to the ground face down, which corroborated during her CCRB interview statement. PO Staple then allegedly straddled § 87(2)(b) from behind with PO Staple's legs wrapped around § 87(2)(b) began squeezing \$87(2)(b) causing him pain. During \$87(2)(b) s CCRB interview (encl. 8a-e) she described that PO Staple "mounted" \$ 87(2)(b) s back from behind, but made no mention of him squeezing §87(2)(b) According to §87(2)(b) (encl. 10a-c) she observed two male officers restraining §87(2)(b) but then stated that she observed one officer with his knee s back holding him to the ground and another with his arm around §87(2)(6) could not describe either officer. Although \$87(2)(b) did not provide a sworn statement, during a telephone statement he stated that as PO Perez walked him into the building was exiting the building. He stated that \$87(2)(6) allegedly pushed PO Perez and then took off running out of the building. He observed \$87(2)(5) fall and hit his head on the ground from which he sustained a laceration to his head (encl. 6d). According to PO Perez (encl. 17e-h) and PO Staple (encl. 16d-f), as §87(2)(b) being brought back into the building to be released, he identified §87(2)(b) who was exiting the building, as a male who had robbed him several days prior to this incident. PO Perez attempted to stop and apprehend §87(2)(b) based on §87(2)(b) identifying him; however, § ran out of the building. PO Perez then shouted to PO Staple, "Staple that's him. Grab him." According to PO Staple, as \$87(2)(b) ran towards him, he stepped aside and turned to As PO Staple was doing this, \$87(2)(b) tripped over his leg and fell to the ground. Since PO Staple was holding onto \$87(2)(6) PO Staple also fell to the ground. PO Staple fell underneath \$87(2)(b) with his back to the ground and \$87(2)(b) s back against his was on top of PO Staple, \$87(2)(b) was moving around to get away and PO Staple then wrapped his legs with \$87(2)(b) starts legs so that they were entwined and could not move. PO Staple also had his hands wrapped across §87(2)(b) s chest. He held onto him until Sgt. Castro and PO Perez approached to remove \$87(2)(6) from being on top of PO Staple. According to PO Perez and Sgt. Castro, when \$87(2)(6) ran out of the building he ran into PO Staple and they both fell to the ground. Sgt. Castro (encl. 14a-h) and PO Perez acknowledged that PO Staple fell beneath § 87(2)(b) and then wrapped his legs and arms around him to hold onto him. Patrol Guide Procedure 203-11 states, "only that amount of force necessary to overcome resistance will be used to effect an arrest or take a mentally ill or emotionally disturbed person into custody" (encl. 2a-b). § 87(2)(g)

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§ 87(2)(g)
Allegation B: Force: PO Daniel Staple used a chokehold against 887(2)(b)
According to \$87(2)(b) (encl. 9a-g), after PO Staple wrapped his legs around \$27(2)
PO Staple placed his hands around §87(2)(b) s neck in a chokehold position and began
pulling \$87(2)(b) s body backward by his neck, which restricted \$87(2)(b) s breathing.
reached his hand to PO Staple's hand around his neck and pulled his hand off of his neck
and PO Staple subsequently got off of \$87(2)(b) This was corroborated by \$87(2)(b) who
stated that PO Staple placed his hands around \$87(2)(b) s neck and choked him. Similarly,
during ST(2)(b) s CCRB statement (encl. 10a-c) she stated that she observed from her second
floor window, an officer with his arm around \$87(2)(b) s neck while another officer had his
knee in \$87(2)(b) s back, but she could not provide a description of these officers.
During PO Staple's CCRB statement (encl. 16d-f), he stated that after he and \$87(2)(6)
fell to the ground, he intertwined his legs with \$87(2)(b) s legs and crossed his arms around
s chest. He denied that he ever made contact with \$87(2)(b) s neck or throat and
denied placing him in a chokehold. Similarly, PO Perez (encl. 17e-h) and Sgt. Castro (encl. 14a-
h) denied that PO Staple made contact with \$87(2)(5) s neck or that PO Staple placed him in a
chokehold, while PO Woods (encl. 18d-f) and Lt. Gonzalez (encl. 19d-f) testified that they never
observed PO Staple involved in the physical apprehension of \$87(2)(b)
According to Patrol Guide Procedure 203-11, members of the New York City Police
Department will not use chokeholds. A chokehold includes, but is not limited to, any pressure of
the throat or windpipe, which may prevent or hinder breathing or reduce intake of air (encl. 2a-b).
Despite the investigators attempts to obtain additional statements, neither \$87(2)(b)
or \$87(2)(b) cooperated with the investigation. During the CCRB interviews of EMT's \$87(2)(b) (encl. 13a-d), \$87(2)(b)
(encl. 12a-d), and §87(2)(b) (encl. 11a-d), they testified that they did not observe any
force being used against \$87(2)(b) however, they arrived at the end of the incident after the
alleged physical force was used against \$87(2)(5)
§ 87(2)(g)

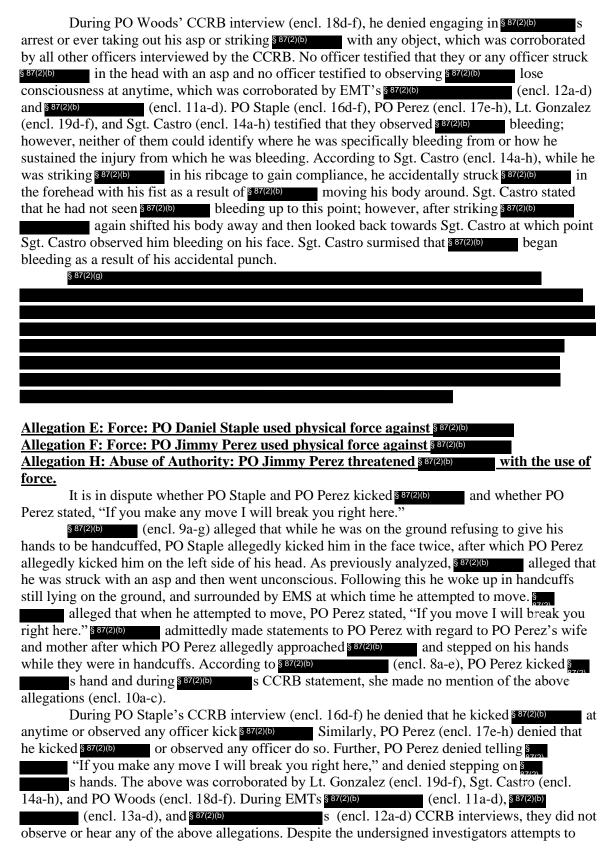
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Allegation C: Force: PO Zain Woods used physical force against §87(2)(b)
It is in dispute whether PO Woods pushed \$87(2)(b) (encl. 8a-e) stated
that she was standing approximately five feet away from \$87(2)(b) while he was on the ground
and PO Staple allegedly had him in a chokehold position. §87(2)(6) alleged that PO Woods
approached her and pushed her backwards with open palms in her upper chest. She described the
push as forceful and it resulted in \$87(2)(b) falling backwards onto the ground. During
s CCRB statement (encl. 9a-g) he made no mention of this force. However, \$87(2)(6)
testified that officers had pushed unidentified persons in the crowd (encl. 10a-c).
According to PO Woods (encl. 18d-f), he conducted crowd control in that there were
several women in close proximity to when \$87(2)(5) was being apprehended on the ground. He
stated that he instructed the individuals to stay back several times, but they did not comply and
were "on top" of the officers effecting the arrest. PO Woods did not recall any specific female,
but stated that he used "minor force" to push the women "back some" so that they were not
interfering with the arrest. He stated that the females immediately walked around him and re-
approached the arrest that was taking place and with open palms he guided the women away from
the arrest of \$87(2)(b) During the respective CCRB interviews of Lt. Gonzalez (encl. 19d-f),
PO Staple (encl. 16d-f), PO Perez (encl. 17e-h), and Sgt. Castro (encl. 14a-h), they denied
observing any officer push any female at any time.
§ 87(2)(g)
3 or (=)(9)
Allegation D: Force: Sgt. Jordan Castro used physical force against \$87(2)(b)
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Staple began screaming about being uncomfortable. Sgt. Castro testified that §87(2)(b) was
stiffening his arms and putting his arms by his crotch so that the officers could not handcuff him.
After \$87(2)(b) s continued reluctance to comply, Sgt. Castro punched him in his side near his
ribcage once in an attempt to get \$87(2)(b) to comply, which was corroborated by PO Staple.
then stated, "Fuck you. I'm not going to give you my hands. I am not going to jail."
He was then told to stop resisting and asked again for his hands. Sgt. Castro went on to punch size the property of the part o
near his ribcage a second time, but \$87(2)(0) did not give up his hands. As Sgt. Castro went to punch him a third time in his side, \$87(2)(0) rolled over and moved in a manner
resulting in Sgt. §87(2)(b) accidentally striking §87(2)(b) on the forehead, which Sgt. Castro
stated may have resulted in §87(2)(b) sustaining a laceration. According to all officer
testimony, \$87(2)(b) was resisting and combative. PO Perez (encl. 17e-h) testified that
was kicking and punching at the officers and acting in a violent manner; however, he did
not see what Sgt. Castro was doing and did not observe him punch \$87(2)(b) Similarly,
neither, PO Woods (encl. 18d-f), or Lt. Gonzalez (encl.19d-f) observed Sgt. Castro punch
§ 87(2)(b)
Patrol Guide Procedure 203-11 states, "only that amount of force necessary to overcome
resistance will be used to effect an arrest or take a mentally ill or emotionally disturbed person
into custody" (encl. 2a-b).
§ 87(2)(g)
Allegation G: Force: PO Woods struck \$87(2)(b) with an asp.
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obtain interviews from § 87(2)(b)	and § 87(2)(b)	
they ultimately did not cooperate	with the investigation.	87(2)(g)
Team:		
Investigator:		
Signature	Print	Date
Supervisor:		
Title/Signature	Print	Date
D		
Reviewer:	Print	Date
Title/Signature	FIIII	Date
Reviewer:		
Title/Signature	Print	Date